

Evaluation Criteria for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program. sgorin@mountainfoundation.org
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Below are my questions and concerns for information provided on the evaluation criteria form:

#	Project Type	Project Title	Grant Request	Match Total	Project Cost
2013-14	G13-04-02-R01	Restoration (Baldy Mesa)	1,105,422	388,611	1,494,033
2014-15	G14-04-02-R01	Restoration (NO Projects)	664,152	694,425	1,358,577
2015-16	<u>Not applied for</u>	<u>Previous '3' uncompleted</u>	0	0	0
2013-14	G13-04-02-S01	Education & Safety	96,281	304,907	401,188
2014-15	G14-04-02-S01	Education & Safety	85,514	275,230	360,744
2015-16	G15-04-02-S01	Education & Safety	105,461	349,310	454,771
2013-14	TOTAL for BOTH	Rest + Ed & Sfty	1,201,703	693,518	1,895,221
2014-15	TOTAL for BOTH	Rest + Ed & Sfty	749,666	969,655	1,719,321
2015-16	TOTAL for ALL	Education & Safety	105,461	349,310	454,771

(From last years application) 5. For Applicant's OHV grant Projects which reached the end of the Project performance period within the last two years, the percentage of all Projects closed out in accordance with Program regulations:

Restoarion (their mis-spelling): G08-04-02-R01; Grant Period 7/1/09 - 6/30/12 & G09-04-02-R01; Grant Period 8/11/10 - 8/10/13 **Safety & Ed**: G10-04-02-S01; Grant Period: 7/13/11 - 7/12/12 & G11-04-02-S01; Grant Period 7/13/12 - 7/12/13

It was filled in as 100% of deliverable accomplished yet I've personally been in these areas lately and have not seen ANYTHING resembling full completion of these projects. This was not addressed years prior and I expect it won't be addressed this year either...WHY?

"SCMF staff hosted two publicly noticed meetings with the general public to review the grant process and discuss the proposed project. Meetings were held 1) February 9, 2016; 6pm-8pm at the Forest Service Supervisors Office in San Bernardino and 2) February 10, 2016; 7pm-9pm at Sizzler Restaurant in Corona, CA"

These so-called "public meetings" were ONLY announced via their SBNFA-OHV "PRIVATE" bulletin board which is NOT made available to the general public. Only their members of this PRIVATE CLUB can access this site and has been this way since early 2011. Furthermore, the Sizzler Restaurant management STILL INSISTS that ALL attendees MUST purchase a meal when entering into the restaurant to attend this so-called 'public meeting'. This MUST be changed to a more tolerable venue for my green sticker funds to ever be considered to fund ANYTHING this group does.

"SCMF's OHV program provides multiple hands on and formal class trainings...we attend dealerships, industry trade shows and host kiosks where we distribute printed materials including; maps, brochures, and educational CD's and DVD's".

This 'training' is ONLY made available to their "PRIVATE CLUB" members and not to the general public to where the true education is actually intended to reach. Take into consideration that they have lowered their On the Right Trail presentations from 24 in 2011 to 15 in 2012 and NOW from a mere 6 in 2013 to ZERO in 2014? What do they have in store for their 2015-16 grant? How about yet ANOTHER great big GOOSE EGG! THAT'S RIGHT, FOLKS - ZERO AGAIN... NOTHING... NADA... ZILCH!! What happened?

"ATV Safety Institute and/or Motorcycle Safety Foundation approved training courses are provided to the public":

This is NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC by any means and they should not be given a point. You have to a member of the volunteer program or a forest service employee.

Last year, this group applied for a Restoration Grant (with no active restoration project mentioned anywhere). At that time, they claimed 100% of Projects closed out (10 points). This year, they are requesting funds for a Program Assistant

to the tune of \$7,500 for 500 hours of work. Just last year, they asked for 2 positions to be funded at \$55,000+ each for THREE YEARS within a ONE YEAR GRANT totaling more than \$165,000 !! An "OHV Patrol Volunteer Coordinator – I can possibly understand one (1) position which is applied for within the Education & Safety Grant but why another – ESPECIALLY with what was applied for just last year? By their own admission, the element of 'recruiting...and monitoring volunteers' is mentioned. This very element is supposed to be handled by the Volunteer Coordinator – a position they apply for grant funding for within their Safety & Education Grant to the tune of \$50,086 this year (up from \$49,610 last year & \$48,000 the year before). Last year, it was a "PART TIME" Program Assistant "Intern" for 15 hours a week to the tune of \$12,000 a year PLUS... \$10,350 in personal vehicle fuel expenses. This year brings about another position... another windfall, perhaps? Could this turn out to be "double dipping"? Maybe a contingency plan should one of the other two positions are not funded? If so, it should be disallowed.

They brag so heavily about the work of the OHV Volunteers AND of the Adopt-A-Trail Program so why not utilize them? Maybe it's about money once again. Bottom line, it appears they are spending too much money on employees

Safety and Education Grant - Not in support of this Grant

Based on only 1.3 million dollars available for the entire state (down from 1.5 just last year), ONCE AGAIN, THIS Grant applicant is asking for just under 10% of the available funds. The available funds need to be shared more evenly throughout all the Grant applicants. Below are my recommendations for this Grant applicant.

Staff: OHV Program Coordinator position should be for a total of 30 hours per week – NO MORE THAN THAT !! Why would WE, the tax payers, allow for the funding of \$50,086 (up from \$49,610 last year and from \$48,000 the year prior) for a position that's main objective is "recruiting" new volunteers for this "PRIVATE CLUB"? An alarming fact: In 2012, this applicant proposed 24 ORT presentations. Then in 2013, they had decreased by half to just twelve (12). In 2014, it had been cut again to a mere six (6). Now, for 2015, I don't see ANY ORT presentations listed yet they are asking for more money for less deliverables. This is not a sound business practice and proper use of funds. Truly, this looks a lot like more money for less work to US, the tax payers!

Material and Supplies: In the categories of Brochures and Signs, they seem redundant. There are printing costs associated with each category and it should be a bundled request not separated. They are asking for more money than is actually needed. This year, total is \$22,000 (up from \$25,000 last year and \$20,000 the year before) sure seems excessive for printing needs for one year. In 2012, they were granted \$8,000 minus the match which seemed to do just fine. They are almost tripling the costs of 2012 and have done this the last three years... this seems suspicious. Especially in today's world of technology, they can put these materials on line and people can chose to print for themselves.

Equipment Use Expenses:

Other – Mileage Reimbursement – It seems that the amount being requested can be reduced to approximately \$3000... Not the proposed \$9,720 as they claim (though it is down from \$10,350 last year). Instead, they should use a monthly stipend of \$100 per month for travel as this would require the employee to keep track of his/her mileage and receipts for gas. (The volunteers do not receive reimbursement or a stipend for their gas/mileage). Also, the Program Director and other SCMF staff have access to Forest Service vehicles to travel from the office which would greatly reduce the amount they are requesting.

Equipment Purchase - Other: In 2013, the SCMF asked for \$18,000 to fund a Mobile Education Kiosk – that was \$18,000 for a branding message. What have we received for this – a branding message and not much more than that! I have only ever seen this vehicle at ONE (1) trade show, the Sand Sports Super Show and NOT ANY OTHERS. This IS nothing more than another "recruitment tool" and a waste of tax payer's money.

Other – Trade Show Fees – They claim that funds (\$2,400 they are requesting) go towards exhibiter fees for the Off-Road Expo in Pomona, CA & the Intl Motorcycle Show in Long Beach, CA. SCMF further claims this as an increase to cover space for their large mobile education exhibit created with OHMVR funds three years ago. This group also claims they were unable to bring it to these events due to lack of funding last year (and the year prior). At the Off Road Expo, they were openly & actively "RECRUITING" new volunteers from the attending public. They continue to do this at ALL shows they attend. Why are public funds being utilized by a "private club" for the purpose of recruitment?

For an education and safety grant there is not much being asked for on either point; education or safety. This is a fluff piece grant and the money should be used to further educate the public on safety. **[Drew A]**
